

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, February 16, 1903, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. M.G.B. (mailed) Feb. 16, 1903.) My dear Alec:

I don't want you to think I didn't telegraph you when I ought. I couldn't have got you here anyway until I was nearly well enough to meet you at the station, and it would have been flat to have come all the way from Florida to meet a well wife. I didn't feel quite well the day after you left, but that seemed all the more reason for coming to New York to see Dr. Cleveland, and it was not until six o'clock in the evening of the next day, Thursday, that I felt at all disturbed about myself. Then I sent for a doctor, I was nervous and a bit scared all night but was better in the morning and better still in the evening. It was just that one night that I was ill, the rest of the time I have been getting better all the time, and the whole trouble is simply what is to be expected of a woman of 45. Of course I feel weak after losing so much blood but the doctor says I could start for Florida Tuesday, only I want to wait another day and have Daisy get me some thin clothes. I have not suffered the least and I would not have been as nervous as I was the first night if the nurse had been a little more tactful, and not made me think matters were worse then they were by not saying anything when I spoke to her. I have been sitting up in a chair this evening and am stronger than I thought I was, so you see you can't make an invalid of your wife. The only thing I am thankful for is that this didn't happen when I was in Cabin Hubbard, 2 and it might have any time this last year. No harm would have come, but I'd have been scared nearly to death.

Daisy seems wonderfully better under the regular quiet life she has had to lead here. But the moment she tries to do anything she gets tired out and miserable. She was so tired the last two days in Washington she said she almost wished she were dead, and she hadn't

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been doing much. I thought since you were unwilling anything should be done unless you were here that it was better to wait until you had to be North anyway, but she is not willing to wait longer than next month. Meantime we hope to have a good time with you.

Lovingly, Your Mabel.